

# Councilmember Kansen Chu

VOLUME III/ISSUE 5 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2010



Councilmember Chu and wife Daisy attend the San José Obon Festival.



Councilmembers along with Congressmembers and Honorable Norman Mineta celebrate the opening of the long awaited new SJ Airport terminal.



Morrill Middle School Girls Basketball team receive commendations during a City Council meeting.

## Door-to-Door in District 4 Newsletter

Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMEMBER CHU

Dear District 4 Neighbors,

We are truly fortunate to have so many outstanding individuals in our community who dedicate their time to make District 4 a better place to live. I know there are many remarkable volunteers who have positively contributed to the success of our community and want to make sure they are recognized for all their hard work and dedication. I will be sponsoring the first District 4 Community Recognition Event. I ask for your help in nominating an outstanding individual, group of individuals, company, or organization that live, work, or volunteer in our community.

Nominees must describe how the individual or group has made a positive impact to the District 4 community. Please submit your nomination to our office by September 30, 2010. A group of community volunteers will judge the nominations and winners will be announced in our next newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage residents to get more involved in their communities. I strongly believe that the involvement of residents is one of the most vital components to building a better community. I encourage residents to increase wider community involvement through participation in neighborhood groups as well as volunteer and civic engagement opportunities. We need your help and support in order to continue making the City of San Jose a great place to live, work, and play for all of our citizens. Together, we can make a difference in our neighborhoods, communities, and city.

Best Regards,



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- Upcoming Events
- District 4 Updates
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**Sign up for regular email updates from District 4**

Email [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) so you can be added to the email list.

District 4 Website: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4>

### DISTRICT 4 OFFICE

200 East Santa Clara Street

San Jose, CA 95113

Telephone: (408) 535-4904

Fax: (408) 292-6459

Email: [District4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:District4@sanjoseca.gov)



## COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010**  
**6:00PM-8:00PM**

**Starbucks Café, 670 River Oaks Parkway**  
**Cross Street: Montague Expressway**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2010**  
**6:00PM-8:00PM**

**Berryessa Branch Library**  
**3355 Noble Avenue**

Since I have been elected to serve you in 2007, I have committed over 100 hours in community office hours to receive feedback and provide assistance to residents with over 150 cases. Over the past three years, I have enjoyed meeting with many of you and being able to assist you regarding City issues. I encourage you to continue to take advantage of the community office hours so that I may be of assistance to you all.

Please call the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to book an appointment.

*Dates and locations are subject to change. Please call for confirmed times and locations.*



SJ Councilmembers at the Rainbow Flag Raising Event



City Council Proclamation for Philippines Independence Day

## CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS 2010-2011 BUDGET

On June 29, 2010, the City Council approved the budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2010. In order to balance the budget, the City Council needed to make up a \$118.5 million shortfall. While this was a very difficult budget year, the City Council was able to preserve essential services in the City of San José, including the restoration of Branch Library Hours, keeping community centers open at existing service levels, and providing funding for park rangers and anti-graffiti programs.

In June, the City Council approved agreements with six bargaining groups that met the goal of a 10% reduction in total compensation for those 1640 employees. Over the month of July, the City continued their discussions with police and fire unions and a few other unions about concessions for those employees and will be bringing forward any new agreements for City Council approval in August.

Reaching the agreements has allowed the City to reverse many of the service cuts that would otherwise have been necessary to balance the budget. The savings achieved through these agreements allowed the City Council restore 107 non-sworn positions and several key services.

I appreciate hearing your thoughts, concerns, and priorities over the past few months. Your feedback continues to give me invaluable insight during the budget process as I work with my colleagues on the City Council during these challenging times.







## Neighborhood Groups

### Alviso Neighborhood Group

Meets every 1st Wednesday of the Month at 6PM at Alviso Library  
Contact: Betty Brown  
betty@maileater.net

### Alviso Water Taskforce

Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 6PM at the Alviso Community Center  
www.alvisowater.org  
Contact: alvisowater@gmail.com

### Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council

Meets every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7PM at the Berryessa Community Center  
Contact: Mike Flaughter  
mikeflaughter@yahoo.com

### North Valley Community Association

Meets every 3rd Monday of every other month at 7PM Location TBA  
Contact: Chris Zhou  
czhou911@yahoo.com  
To Subscribe to the Listserve, Please send an email to: NorthValleyCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

### Piedmont Hostetter Neighborhood Association

Meets quarterly at 6:30PM at the Berryessa Union School District Board Room  
Contact: Cheryl VanZuylen  
Cheryl\_vanzuylen@yahoo.com

### River Oaks Neighborhood Association

Meets every odd month  
Location TBA  
Contact: Jean Marlowe  
jean@jeanmarlowe.com

### Townsend Park Neighborhood Association

Meets twice yearly  
Location TBA  
Contact: Lori Wallace  
lori\_wp@yahoo.com

## NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UPS



Having clean neighborhoods continues to be a priority throughout the City of San José, especially in District 4. As a result of this priority, the City provides several resources that promote and facilitate clean neighborhoods. Through

community clean-ups, local governments could reuse and recycle most of the bulky goods in their community. Neighborhood clean-ups are organized to collect materials that are not easily placed in garbage or recycling containers.

Many of you have called my office asking when their neighborhood should expect their next clean-up. The City of San José is currently funded to hold five clean-ups per year in each council district. As a result, each area should receive a clean-up about every 2-3 years, rotating evenly among the different neighborhoods. Each one of these clean-up events allows residents in designated neighborhoods to dispose of unwanted bulky items in pre-designated areas.

When a clean-up is scheduled in your area, the City's Code Enforcement Division will distribute postcards, approximately two weeks prior to the Clean-Up Day, notifying you of the date of the clean-up and where the drop off bins will be located in your neighborhood. If you have not received a clean-up in a few years, don't worry, your neighborhood has not been forgotten and a clean-up will be coming up in the rotation of neighborhoods. If you would like to know when the next clean-up is scheduled for in your neighborhood, please do not hesitate to contact my office.



If a clean-up event has not been scheduled in your neighborhood, the City of San José offers a year round flexible, low-cost, large item collection program to meet your needs and schedule. Providing a yearly clean-up program in the City of San José would increase costs significantly for San José garbage service ratepayers. You can have "bulky" items, such as mattresses, sofas, refrigerators, or tires picked up at your curb for a small fee. You may dispose up to three items for \$25.00. If you are interested, call (408)535-3515 and ask for the Large Item Program. They will connect you with a hauler that will schedule a time to pick up as many as three large items left at the curb.



## A WORD FROM OUR YOUTH COMMISSIONER

Our district's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is looking for some new additions to their group. A YAC is an active group of youth from ages 14-20 who dedicate their time, talent and ideas to promote positive change in their community. YAC members identify and tackle youth issues, host special events, participate in volunteer activities and address the needs of their district's residents.

District 4's YAC focuses on peer empowerment through voicing diverse opinions. This coming school year, we plan on participating in more events as volunteers. We also plan on hosting a few of our own events, such as a Peer-to-Peer luncheon focused on transition middle school students to high school smoothly.



District 4's Youth Commissioner Kasey Ong with her family during her swearing-in ceremony at a City Council meeting in August 2009.

We are looking for youth who can show commitment, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, and inclusion. We meet every third Tuesday of the month at the Berryessa Community Center from 4:30 - 5:30 PM. Our first meeting of the year will be on August 24th (the fourth Tuesday). I hope to see some new and excited faces!

As your District 4 Youth Commissioner, I am honored to serve and represent the youth and young adults. I hope to continue to represent students in this district and if there are any activities or ideas that you would like to introduce, I would enjoy hearing from you! Please email me at [d4youth-commission@gmail.com](mailto:d4youth-commission@gmail.com).

- Kasey Ong, District 4 Youth Commissioner



Last Year's District 4 Youth Advisory Council with District 4 staff at the 2009 Family Resource Fair



Kasey Ong serves as 2nd Vice Chair on San José's Youth Commission.

**DO YOU RECEIVE  
WEEKLY EMAILS FROM  
COUNCILMEMBER CHU?**

Sign-up at  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4)



Commissioner Ong's Swearing-In Ceremony during last year's City Council Meeting





## THE BUDGET AND DISTRICT 4

### **NORTH SAN JOSE UPDATE**

Adopted in 2005, the North San José Area Development Policy created the opportunity for an additional 26.7 million square feet of new office/industrial development, 32,000 residential units, and 1.7 million square feet of new commercial development in the City's primary employment center. The policy was designed to establish a framework for economic sustainability and 'smart growth' throughout the area. This is achieved by promoting economic activity through the creation of up to 80,000 new jobs, and the addition of new housing and retail development in close proximity to new jobs, amenities and transit infrastructure.

In June, North San José plan will move on to another milestone, the approval of amendments to the North San José Area Development Policy that will address regional retail and prime locations so that it is distributed throughout the Policy area, accept the North San José Urban Design Guidelines and accept the North San José Neighborhoods Plan.

I would like to particularly note that the North San José Neighborhoods Plan was contributed largely by the North San José Task Force that I had initiated in 2007. What had started as a short term task force has turned into a multiple year commitment by our very own District 4 residents. Due to their vested interest, I plan on convening the North San José Task Force to meet annually to be informed of updates and changes and also solicit feedback.

### **OLD BERRYESSA LIBRARY UPDATE**

First and foremost, I would like to thank you all for your patience regarding the re-use of the old Berryessa Library. Unfortunately, given the monetary investment needed to renovate the current building, it proved to be difficult for the City to find a tenant to take over the building. I have met with City staff regarding next steps and agreed that it was in the best interest to demolish the old Berryessa Library to expand the library's current parking lot. I have heard it loud and clear from the community that this vacant building has been an ongoing eyesore in our community for the past few years and I believe that the expansion of the parking lot will better serve the increasing needs of the visitors at the Berryessa Branch Library.

The demolition of the old Berryessa Library will take place over the summer and the expanded parking lot is expected to be completed this fall.



### **FIRESTATION #19 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

Many of you have contacted my office regarding the status of Fire Station 19, located at the southwest corner of Piedmont Road and Sierra Road. In March 2002, the City of San José voters passed the Neighborhood Security Bond Act that approved the issuance of the \$159M in General Obligation bonds to fund the construction of public safety facilities. Fire Station 19 is one of the stations being relocated as part of the public safety bond program to improve service delivery.

Fire Station 19 will be a two-story, 6,049 square feet, singly company fire station with two apparatus bays. Construction started in September 2008 and is expected to be completed this summer, followed by a highly anticipated grand opening scheduled to take place early Fall 2010.



## City & Community Contacts

**City Hall Call Center**

**(408) 535-3500**

**Abandoned Vehicles**

**(408) 277-5305**

**Alviso Branch Library**

**(408) 263-3626**

**Alviso Youth Center**

**(408) 586-7624**

**Anti-Graffiti & Litter**

**(408) 277-2758**

**Berryessa Branch Library**

**(408) 808-3050**

**Berryessa Community &**

**Senior Center**

**(408) 251-6392**

**Berryessa Youth Center**

**(408) 262-1014**

**Code Enforcement**

**(408) 535-7770**

**Crime Prevention**

**(408) 277-4133**

**Garbage & Recycling**

**(408) 535-3515**

**Parks & Recreation**

**(408) 535-3570**

**Sidewalk Repair**

**(408) 277-3158**

**Street Lights**

**(408) 277-5517**

**Street Sweeping**

**(408) 277-2571**

**Tree Trimming & Removal**

**(408) 277-2756**

## Meet Your District 4 Team

**Stephanie Fong, District Director**

[stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:stephanie.fong@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Berryessa Neighborhood, Redevelopment, Parks & Recreation, Budget, Personnel, Youth, Internship Coordination, Web Content, & Constituent Services.

### COMMITTEES

Neighborhood Services & Education; Public Safety, Finance & Strategic Support.



**Margie Espinoza, Executive Assistant**

[margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:margie.espinoza@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Councilmember Scheduling, Office Administration, Constituent Services, and Event Planning.

**Kathy Duong, Policy Analyst**

[kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:kathy.duong@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

North Valley Neighborhood, North San José Neighborhood, Land Use, Environment, Public Safety, Housing, Economic Development, Web Content, Vietnamese Media Relations and Constituent Services.

### COMMITTEES

Public Safety, Finance and Strategic Support; Transportation & Environment



**Chris Zhou, Intern**

[chris.zhou@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:chris.zhou@sanjoseca.gov)

### FOCUS AREAS

Constituent Services, and Event Planning



Community members attend the Ethiopian Flag Raising Ceremony at SJ City Hall





## DISTRICT 4 EVENTS

For up-to-date event information, visit [sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://sanjoseca.gov/district4) and email [district4@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov) to receive e-Notices.

## AUGUST

### 3 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Please check the District 4 website at [www.sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4) for events in your neighborhood.  
6:00PM-10:00PM

### 3 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

First City Council Meeting of 2010-2011 Fiscal Year  
7:00PM  
San José City Hall  
200 E. Santa Clara Street

### 3 SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

Movie Night: Toy Story Part I  
Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!  
Movie Starts at Sunset!  
Townsend Park, On Townsend Park Circle and Townsend Avenue

### 11 RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Re-Planting of Alviso's Historic Palm Trees  
10:00AM-11:00AM  
Alviso Grammar School  
1568 Liberty Street

### 12 COMMUNITY OFFICE HRS

Starbucks @ River Oaks  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
670 River Oaks Parkway  
Please call (408) 535-4904 to schedule a 15 minute appointment

### 13 SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

Movie Night: Toy Story Part 2  
Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!  
Movie Starts at Sunset!  
Berryessa Community Ctr Patio  
3050 Berryessa Road

### 23 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

All Schools in District 4



### 24 YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

4:30PM-5:30PM  
Berryessa Community Center  
3050 Berryessa Road

### 6 LABOR DAY

City Hall Closed on September 6



## SEPTEMBER



Last year's Children's Moon Festival

### 13 BCAC GENERAL MEETING

Occurs ever 2nd Monday  
7:00PM  
Berryessa Community Center  
3050 Berryessa Road

### 18 CHILDREN'S MOON FESTIVAL

12:00PM-10:00PM  
Cesar Chavez Park

### 29 COMMUNITY OFFICE HRS

Berryessa Branch Library  
6:00PM-8:00PM  
3355 Noble Avenue  
Please call (408) 535-4904 to schedule a 15 minute appointment



Councilmember Chu celebrates the opening of this year's Taiwanese Chinese American Athletic Tournament.



Demonstrators at this year's Wushu Tournament held in San José.



Councilmembers Chu commemorating Firebird Youth Orchestra's 10th Anniversary.

Event dates are subject to change. Please contact the District 4 office at (408) 535-4904 to confirm events.

# VOLUNTEER IN DISTRICT 4!



## Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

The Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley strives to provide high quality care and rehabilitation for injured, sick, and orphaned wildlife within the Silicon Valley Community. Volunteer to assist our wildlife!

**(408) 929-9453 • [www.wcsv.org](http://www.wcsv.org)**

## Adopt A Park Program

Adopt a Park Program strives to protect and enhance San José's neighborhood parks and open spaces by volunteer support, and at the same time dedicated to educating San José residents about the importance of parks. Adopt a Park today!



**(408) 793-4190 • [www.sjadoptapark.org](http://www.sjadoptapark.org)**

**Celebrating 25 Years**

## Santa Visits Alviso



Santa Visits Alviso has been serving the Alviso Community since 1983 and is dedicated to bringing gifts & the Spirit of the Holidays to hundreds of toddlers and teens every year. Santa Visits Alviso is an all volunteer organization & is active year long.

**[rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us](mailto:rpsantos@scvwd.dst.ca.us) • [www.alvisosanta.com](http://www.alvisosanta.com)**



## Friends of the Library Program

District 4 is proud to have two libraries to serve our community. Call today for volunteer opportunities!

**Friends of Alviso Library • (408) 263-3626**

**Friends of Berryessa Library • (408) 808-2181**



## Office of Councilmember Kansen Chu

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200 East Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, California 95113

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Visit the District 4 website:  
[www.sanjoseca.gov/district4](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4)  
Visit Kansen's Blog:  
[www.kansenchu.com/blog](http://www.kansenchu.com/blog)

